

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

CLICK HERE for Multiple Property Listing,
Historic Resources of the Chicago Park District
Multiple Property Submission"

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Humboldt Park
other names/elite number Park #219

2. Location

street & number 1400 N. Sacramento Blvd. (mailing address) not for publication
city, town Chicago vicinity
state Illinois code IL county Cook code 031 zip code 60622

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>14</u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>22</u>	<u>3</u> objects
			<u> </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
The Historic Resources of the Chicago Park District

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

William L. White, SHP
Signature of certifying official 1-13-92
Date
IHPA
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE/ park
RECREATION AND CULTURE/ outdoor recreation
RECREATION AND CULTURE/ sports facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE/ work of art

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE/ park
RECREATION AND CULTURE/ outdoor recreation
RECREATION AND CULTURE/ sports facility
RECREATION AND CULTURE/ work of art

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Queen Anne
LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENT. AM. MVMTS./
Prairie School

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation concrete
walls brick
stucco
roof asphalt
other vegetation
concrete
bronze

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Humboldt Park is a 206 acre site, located at 1600 North and 2800 West in Chicago, Illinois. Situated on the west side of the city, this is one of the three original pleasure grounds which were linked together by the boulevard system of the West Park Commission. Humboldt Park reflects the evolution of the Prairie style of landscape architecture, which includes significant architectural elements. In addition, throughout its history, Humboldt Park's landscape has successfully responded to the diverse and changing demands placed on a highly used urban open space.

Originally designed in 1871 by William Le Baron Jenney, the park had significant additions and alterations made by Oscar F. Dubuis and Jens Jensen. Influenced by French landscape architecture and the work of Frederick Law Olmsted, Jenney was concerned with transforming the flat, swampy site into a naturalistic landscape, emphasizing lush, picturesque elements. Relying on his engineering expertise, he designed Humboldt Park with an extensive lagoon that would function as a reservoir. Only the eastern 80 acres of Jenney's work, however, was implemented when the park officially opened to the public in 1877. Further modifications and additions made by Dubuis between the 1870s and early 1890s followed this naturalistic tradition, and also appear to have taken the regional characteristics of the midwestern landscape into consideration. This landscape became the setting for Jens Jensen's process of experimentation which led to the Prairie style. Subsequent additions made between the 1920s and 1930s provided significant facilities to the community without compromising this important historic landscape.

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The park continues to retain good integrity in spite of modifications, alterations, and the loss of original fabric which have occurred throughout its history. In order to clearly describe Humboldt Park and show that it retains sufficient integrity to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, three corresponding plans are submitted: Jenney's original design of 1871 [A], Jensen's redesign depicted in a record drawing of 1912 [B], and a numbered current plot plan [C].

Humboldt Park is bounded on the north by W. North Avenue; on the south by W. Augusta Boulevard and W. Division Street from N. Sacramento Boulevard to N. California Avenue; on the east by N. California Avenue and N. Sacramento Boulevard; and the entire western edge is bounded by N. Kedzie Avenue. Added to the park in 1912 was the property bounded on the north by W. Augusta Boulevard; on the south by W. Walton Street; on the east by N. Whipple Street; and on the west by the first alley west of N. Sacramento Boulevard.

The park's interior circulation system consists of two vehicular roads, Marin Drive which encircles the park and Humboldt Drive which runs north/south, intersecting the park [1,2]. Marin Drive reflects the implemented design of Jenney's original plan [A], while Humboldt Drive was a later addition to provide access to the completed section of the park, in place by the time Jensen began redesigning Humboldt Park between 1906 and 1909 [B]. It extends through the center of the park, originally following a serpentine curve at the north extension of the lagoon.

In 1926, Division Street was constructed between W. North Avenue and N. Sacramento Boulevard. The curve of Humboldt Drive was straightened in 1936 as a result of a WPA program to modernize the circulation system. The Humboldt Drive bridge and stone culvert, created upon the straightening of the drive, cross different sections of the park's waterway [3,4]. The Humboldt Drive bridge was constructed of concrete and steel. The stone culvert replaced an earlier stone bridge, and was reconstructed from its original masonry.

As part of the original 1871 plan [A], Jenney designed a formal entrance in the eastern corner of the park at N. California Avenue and W. Division Street, which entered the park

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on a diagonal axis. During Jensen's period of significance [B], the formality of this entrance was reduced, later entirely eliminated. At the foot of the original formal entrance sits the Miner and Child sculpture [5]. Designed by Charles Mulligan, the sculpture was temporarily placed in the park in 1908 and depicts a miner wearing a lantern cap kneeling down to hug his child. This bronze piece was permanently installed in its current location in 1911.

The northeast entrance to Humboldt Park was constructed as Jenney had intended. Some time after the implementation of Jenney's plan, two lamp standards were added at the northeast entry [6]. The concrete bases are classical pedestals with beveled corners, supporting hexagonal shafts with pointed arches incised in each plane surface. Originally mounted on each base was a gas lamp. Currently all of the metal pieces and glass are missing.

In addition to the major drives are a number of pedestrian paths. Some that are located in the northeast section of the park date to the late 1870s or early 1880s. Most of the other paths reflect Jensen's redesign of the park [B].

Humboldt Park was designed to be a "pleasure ground," which was generally intended for passive recreation such as strolling, picnicking and boating. Jenney intended for the east side landscape to be used for passive recreation and enjoyment of extended vistas. Jenney's original plan for Humboldt Park included a large picturesque lake "arranged to all extended vistas within the capabilities of the park" [West Chicago Park Commission, Second Annual Report, 1870]. Though the lake would have covered approximately 2/3 of Humboldt Park, only its eastern portion was implemented [7]. The first artesian well was constructed in 1872, and between 1872 and 1878, the first section of the lagoon was completed. This eastern section of the lagoon surrounds a small wooded island at the northwest, and a small picnic island at the southeast [8,9]. In 1909 the original footbridge leading to picnic island was rebuilt. New concrete abutments were constructed and the original railings were reused [West Chicago Park Commission, Forty-first Annual Report, 1909].

In the 1880s, Dubuis developed plans for a "new lake" to extend Jenney's lagoon. The first four acres were implemented in

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1892 [10]. In 1906, a small portion of this extension was filled for the development of a children's wading pool, created by Jensen. In spite of this minor change, the entire eastern section of the lagoon remains as strong visual evidence of the 19th century park landscape. Jensen's slight alterations and cautious manipulation of this area show his respect for the tradition that preceded him. Though Jenney's full intent was never realized, the eastern portion of the lagoon, including the two small islands, has retained the same configuration since the original construction of the east side of the park.

The construction of the Receptory Building in 1895 was the first improvement in the southwestern section of the park [11]. This Queen Anne style building was meant to emulate "the old German Style of country house architecture" [West Chicago Park Commission, Twenty-eighth Annual Report, 1896]. Designed by Frommann and Jebesen and completed in 1896, it is a picturesque building configured around an open courtyard. Constructed of red brick, the Receptory has a rusticated stone foundation, limestone details, decorative brickwork and half timbering at the second story level. It has numerous steeply pitched, cross gable roofs, and several other intersecting sections including an engaged tower at the entrance and stone turrets. The building also has steeply pitched dormers, and cupolas with copper crestings. It has two Richardsonian arched doorways, and the one leading onto the interior courtyard originally had wrought iron gates. Once used for horses and wagons, this courtyard currently houses trucks and maintenance vehicles. Historically, the building had leaded glass windows, and a clay tile roof. Though these and some other original architectural details are now missing, the building does retain much original fabric and its historic character is still strong. As the building is designated to become a Hispanic Cultural Arts Museum, its exterior is currently under restoration, and its interior will soon be rehabilitated.

The Receptory's surrounding landscape, which includes a small lily pond, was constructed in 1897 shortly after the completion of the Receptory [12]. This small pool for aquatic plants may have been one of Jensen's earliest projects at Humboldt Park, as he was the Park's Superintendent at the time. The original bridge which crossed the pond is missing, replaced in the 1960s by a concrete footbridge.

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When Jensen became General Superintendent and Chief Landscape Architect in 1905, the deteriorated conditions and unimplemented areas of Humboldt Park afforded him the opportunity to explore formal and informal design elements, including the use of both exotic and native plants, throughout the park. At the time, the only structure on the west side of the park was a small conservatory. Due to its terrible state of disrepair, this Victorian conservatory was demolished as part of Jensen's plan for the creation of one large, centralized conservatory in Garfield Park. With the exception of the original conservatory, the west side of the park had never been improved and was used only as a temporary nursery. In 1906, inspired by his frequent field trips to native landscapes, Jensen introduced his vision of a Prairie river into this area. He accomplished this by adding a narrow extension to the southwest portion of the "new lake" [13]. The southern end of this river split into two rocky brooks, fed by hidden water sources.

While one brook still exists [14], the other was filled in 1962, truncating a small section of the tributary. In 1973, dikes were constructed converting the northwestern section of the lagoon (the "new lake") into a swimming beach [15]. Though this interrupted the original water flow, it did not alter the configuration of the lagoon and allows for water recreation. The swimming beach is in good condition, having recently been dredged. Jensen's brook and tributary are currently filled in with invasive plant materials. The footprint of its original design exists, however, and the potential for increasing the integrity of these features is strong.

Jensen planned the river as a part of a naturalistic landscape juxtaposed to a formal rose garden which was placed on the site of the original Humboldt Park conservatory [16]. Jensen set the garden slightly below grade and bermed the land around it to avoid interrupting the area's horizontality. Officially opened in 1908, the garden is of a circular design with a central walk. Emanating to the north and south of the walk are flower beds laid out in a semi-circular pattern, with turf paths between them. The central panel of the garden was originally a water court, but is now filled in with annuals. Paths lead from the east end of the garden to the rectangular Garden Hall, a pergola which is currently under restoration. These elements are on an east-west axis cutting directly through the middle of the

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circular design. Curved pergolas are situated at the north and south end of the garden. At the perimeter of the floral display area is a two foot slope which meets the surrounding grade.

At the garden entrance are two large ornamental lanterns which were designed by Schmidt, Garden and Martin [17]. These lamps each have a concrete shaft mounted on a square base. Each has an ornamental metal lamp casing, with a wheat head motif rendered at the top. They were originally capped with a low profile, copper hipped roof. Unfortunately, the copper roofs have been stolen. In addition, one of the lanterns recently suffered extensive damage when it was struck by an automobile. Recessed to the west of the lanterns are a pair of bronze cast Buffalo statues (also referred to as the Bison), sculpted by Edward Kemeys, which flank the entrance stairs [18]. A drinking fountain basin is situated as originally constructed between the Buffalo.

Currently missing from the Rose Garden are two green teco ware urns which originally flanked the drinking fountain basin, as well as urns for annual flowers or boxed Bay trees which sat along the front of the pergolas [Architectural Record, 1908, pp. 19-30]. Sundials which were placed at the center of each pergola have been removed. The paths between the floral beds which were originally composed of macadam are now turf, and the original rose beds now accommodate annual floral displays. The garden and lanterns are currently under restoration. This landscape element will thus become an even stronger reminder of Jensen's inclusion of formal elements during a critical phase in the evolution of the Prairie style.

Another formal landscape element placed by Jensen in 1908 was the Music Court [19]. On the east side of Humboldt Drive, slightly north of the Rose Garden, the Music Court was an open, rectilinear space. This outdoor area was defined by two buildings. On the south side stood a Music Shelter structure designed by Schmidt, Garden and Martin which included a portable bandstand.

The north side of the Music Court was defined by the Boathouse/Refectory. This building, which is still intact, was designed by Schmidt, Garden and Martin and constructed in 1907 [20]. Its historical function was to provide a boat landing for

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the east lagoon, as well as a shelter and warming room for skaters in the winter. The building is located on a sloped site. It rests on a one story base which extends to the edge lagoon at the north, and is at grade with the Music Court at the south. The building's north and south facades are identical. They are composed of a long, rectangular facade pierced by three semicircular arches that appear buttressed by end pavilions. The walls are stucco frame, with an ornamental band at the juncture of the wall and soffit. The fenestration within the end pavilions consists of three separate windows divided by four massive columns. Both the east and west facades have brick chimney stacks which are symmetrically placed. The structure is capped by a large, hipped roof which extends uninterrupted over its entire length. Originally clad in red clay tiles, the roof is now clad with asphalt shingles.

Within the central space defined by the arches, a large open-air room overlooks the Music Court to the south and opens onto a terrace enclosed by a low decorative wall, above the base which overlooks the lagoon to the north. Constructed of pre-cast concrete, the wall had sections with a decorative Prairie circular motif divides by piers on which shallow urns were placed. The piers still exist, however, the decorative sections were filled in with solid wall. The open-air room has an exposed beam ceiling, reflecting the slope of the hipped roof above. At the north and south end of the room, large, glazed semicircular openings surround a door which leads into each pavilion. The brick base is laid in common bond. The horizontal joints are raked and the vertical ones are flush. There are six doorways in the base which led to boat storage. These openings, however, are now sealed.

Both the Boathouse/Refectory and Music Shelter were flanked by a pair of Prairie style lanterns, identical to those at the entrance of the Rose Garden [21]. The eastern edge of the Music Court was defined by a row of shallow urns placed on concrete pedestals. These urns are missing, the Music Shelter no longer exists, and the Music Court is now a paved parking lot. The Prairie style lanterns, however, are still in their original locations, though they are not functioning and the copper hipped roofs have been stolen. Fortunately, all four lanterns are currently under restoration. The Boathouse/Refectory has not been significantly altered, although original architectural

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details are missing and the windows boarded. The Chicago Park District hopes to find a suitable new use for this structure and rehabilitate it in the future.

At the west end of the Music Court area sits the Alexander von Humboldt monument, constructed in 1892 [22]. The sculptor was Felix Gorling and it was executed by H. Gladenbeck. The monument was donated to the park to commemorate its namesake. The sculpture was executed in cast bronze in the late 19th century Academic style. The sculpture is mounted on a white granite base raised two steps above grade. When Jensen designed the Music Court in 1907, this monument was already positioned in the middle of Humboldt Drive, oriented eastward. When the drive was straightened in 1936, the monument was re-oriented to face west, allowing Humboldt Drive traffic to pass directly to its west. Other than the changed orientation, the current physical appearance is largely the same as when it was first installed.

Located on the east side of Humboldt Drive directly across from the Rose Garden sits the Fritz Reuter monument, designed by sculptor Franz Englesman and constructed in 1893 [23]. This cast bronze sculpture stands on a white granite pedestal. The pedestal was designed with three bas relief panels representing scenes adapted from Reuter's work, and the fourth had an inscription in German. The monument has changed little with age, however the bas relief panels have been removed.

In Jensen's design work for the unimplemented section of Humboldt Park, he conceived a west side perimeter landscape as a border between the park and the city. The berming and heavy planting along the strip of land between Marin Drive and Kedzie Avenue created a screen between the park interior and the neighborhood. He layered understory native plantings with larger shade trees. Some mature trees still exist, and the berm still acts as a buffer between the park interior and the adjacent neighborhood.

East of Marin Drive, Jensen included three meadow areas, which were level and open so that baseball and other games could be played [24,25,26]. Constructed in 1907, Jensen's open meadows were carved out spaces of vegetation that allowed for both active and passive recreational uses and emulated the broad expansive prairie. The northern meadow was placed on the north side of the

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western "new lake" extension of the lagoon [24]. The other two meadows were separated by the tributary end of the Prairie river and the surrounding perennial garden [25,26].

The 1926 construction of Division Street which bisected the park between North Avenue and Sacramento Avenue caused further separation of two of the open meadows [25,26]. Another alteration in the area was the replacement of a rustic bridge created by Jensen (located just north of the Rose garden leading westward into the center open meadow) with a standard WPA concrete bridge with wooden posts in 1938 [27]. In addition, the meadow areas have suffered from a great reduction in their original amount of vegetation. Most of the shrubbery that Jensen had planted by 1910 has long since been expired and was not replanted in later years due to security concerns. In spite of these changes, the landscape retains the overall form, spatial relationships, and feeling as well as an updated version of the functions which had been intended by Jensen for the area. Recreational and playground equipment have been placed in the meadows without detracting from the integrity of the landscape. To provide additional convenience to the park users, a comfort station constructed in the late 1950s at the edge of the south meadow [28]. Although it does not possess any design significance, the comfort station has a minimal impact on the landscape, as it was well placed at the meadow's edge.

During Jensen's redesign work, there was one comfort station constructed in Humboldt Park. Even in this utilitarian structure, Jensen's interest in the Prairie style is revealed [29]. This comfort station was placed at the north end of the park in 1906, near a new children's playground and wading pool. The architect of the compact, well crafted Prairie style comfort station is unknown. It is a one-story brick structure with a hipped roof. The corners of the building are battered columns with slightly inset wall plains. The building could be entered from two ends each accented by pergolas, which no longer exists. This comfort station is currently being restored for use as an office in addition to toilet facilities.

The same year that the comfort station was constructed, Jensen configured a naturalistic children's wading pool within a portion of the earliest "new lake" extension of the lagoon [30]. This also had a Prairie style shelter adjacent to it [31]. By

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1931, the wading lagoon was filled and round concrete wading pool was constructed to replace it. The adjacent playground was recently rehabilitated as a Chicago Park District playground for people with disabilities. The shelter still exists. Its architect is also unknown. It is likely that both buildings were designed by the same architect. The shelter was constructed of massive square wood columns that supported a red tile hipped roof with extended eaves. The floor of the shelter was paved of pressed brick with benches located in the interior. The current shelter may not be the original. However, if not, it is a reconstruction of the original structure placed in its exact location. The tile roof has been replaced with tern metal and the interior benches are missing. The shelter retains the Prairie feeling in its architecture.

Jensen also influenced the construction of another significant Prairie style building, the natatorium complex [32]. Situated on the south side of W. Augusta Boulevard at N. Whipple Avenue, the complex includes a double basin swimming pool and children's playground. Designed by William Carbys Zimmerman and constructed during 1913-1914, Jensen's preference for the Prairie style is revealed in this low brick structure with a relatively symmetrical facade. The central portion of the north and south facades is a raised 2-story block with three bays and a hipped roof. The central block is flanked by two 1-story wings with similar hipped ridge roofs. The north facade has a full-width pergola/waiting area composed of brick piers, concrete columns and wood lattice.

The natatorium has had many alterations, but its original design remains clear. On the north facade, the original single entrance was replaced by a double door. The east facade had three entrances: one each for the toilet rooms and one for the office on the southeast corner of the building [West Park Commission, Fifty-seventh Annual Report, 1925]. The south facade had one centrally located entrance to the swimming pool. Doors and windows have been added, the interior has been divided and renovated, the side skylights have been removed and the whole roof has been covered with asphalt black composition rolls. In 1936, a filter plant building was constructed in the southeast corner of the pool area for automatic cleaning and heating of the pool [33]. Despite its alterations, the natatorium continues to serve its important historic function of providing summertime

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recreation to many people.

After Jensen left the West Park Commission, a large eclectic Revival style building constructed in a Humboldt Park, reflects the tastes of the West Park Commissioners and popular styles of the period. Located on the west section of the lagoon, the Fieldhouse was developed in 1927-28 [34]. Designed by the firm of Michaelson and Rognstad, the Fieldhouse combined Georgian and English Tudor elements. The building is constructed of variegated red brick laid in a Flemish bond with numerous carved limestone details, and some half-timbering. It is u-shaped in plan, with a set of domed turrets dividing the east and west sections of the building from the south facade and a English Tudor gabled projections at the north facade. The roof is of varied profiles, generally composed of a gabled roof in the center section of the building and hipped roofs on the east and west sections.

The building presently appears much as it did when it was first constructed. The only major alteration was the removal of the original balustrade and stairway and replacement with concrete stairs and platform with tubular steel railings. The other major change is the replacement of the slate roof with asphalt. The building does have some missing architectural details, but in general the original fabric is still intact. Many of the original doors and windows still exist. However, two doors on the southeast facade were filled in with brick. The building was constructed of high quality materials which have suffered little deterioration.

East of the fieldhouse is the statue of Leif Erickson, which was in place when the building was first constructed [35]. It was rendered in 1901 by Sigvald Asbjornsen, an important Norwegian sculptor, and donated by citizens of Norwegian decent. The sculpture is a good representation of realistic monuments popular at the turn of the century.

The brick Colonial Revival style comfort station was a feature introduced by the newly consolidated Chicago Park District in many of its parks during the 1935 [36]. Designed by Chicago Park District designer E.V. Buchsbaum, the comfort station was a comparatively elaborate one, constructed of brick with a combination of brick and limestone details. Located at

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the western edge of the park, the structure has a simple rectangular form and a gabled roof. The east and west side elevations are clad with brick along the lower half with recessed courses spaced every five rows, and limestone quoin detailing which extends around all four corners. The upper portion of the building is separated from the lower half by a rounded limestone projection followed by smooth limestone panels which extend to the eaves and around the corners.

Currently the building appears to be very similar to its original appearance. The entry doors and roof have been replaced with modern materials, and the rest room signs which used to hang above the arch, have been removed. In spite of these changes, the building retains good integrity.

In 1940, the Northwest Armory of the Illinois National Guard, 33rd Division [37] was constructed at the extreme northwest corner of the park at the intersection of Kedzie Avenue and North Avenue. This State-owned building acts as a recruitment center, contains a drill hall, and provides weapons and ammunition storage. Clad in limestone, the three story Art Deco building retains most of its original architectural details. Though the building was meant to "blend properly with the park background without detracting in any manner from the effectiveness of the surrounding landscaped grounds" this intent was not well executed [Breen, 1941]. The large scale, heavy massing and prominent siting of the structure have no relationship to the park's historic landscape. Fortunately, it is on the edge of the park, and does not compromise restoration of the overall park and its significant features.

Since 1936, the end of the park's period of significance, Humboldt Park's landscape has continued to meet modern demands while retaining good integrity. In the early 1950s playgrounds were constructed along the north and west landscapes, and quite recently they were rehabilitated. Over the years, the meadows have accommodated a number of sports and other recreational programs. Today they offer soccer, baseball, football, volleyball, basketball, and tennis. None of these later additions have a significant impact on the integrity of the area.

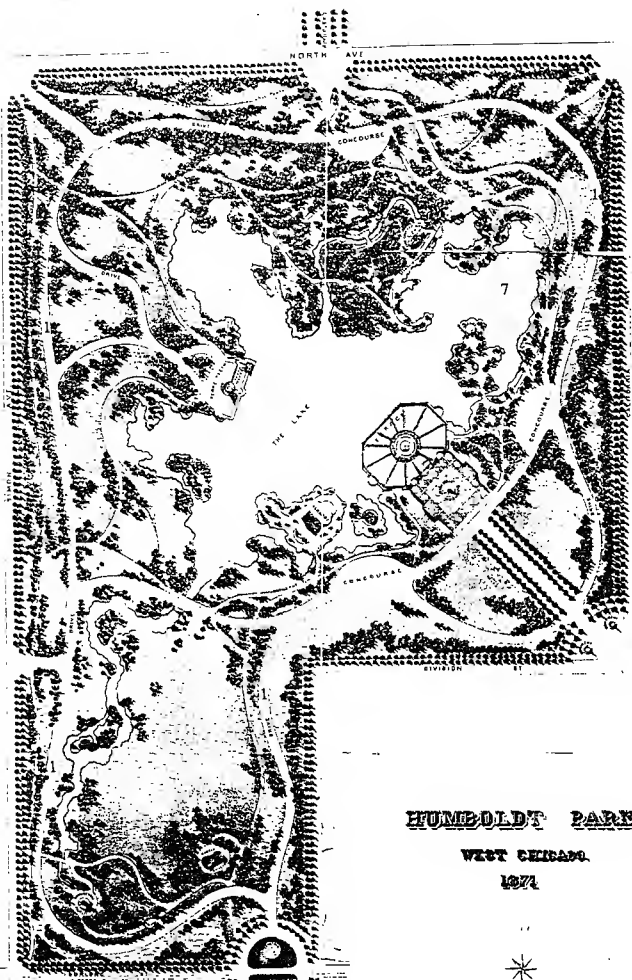
Though the understory which played an important role in defining Jensen's outdoor space has almost entirely been lost, a strong skeleton of the Park's historic landscape remains intact.

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This framework, combined with a careful survey recently conducted by the Chicago Park District staff will guide future restoration efforts. In fact, a number of rehabilitation projects are already underway. It is hoped that these phased improvements will allow for a strong return of the park landscape to its historic splendor.



HUMBOLDT PARK

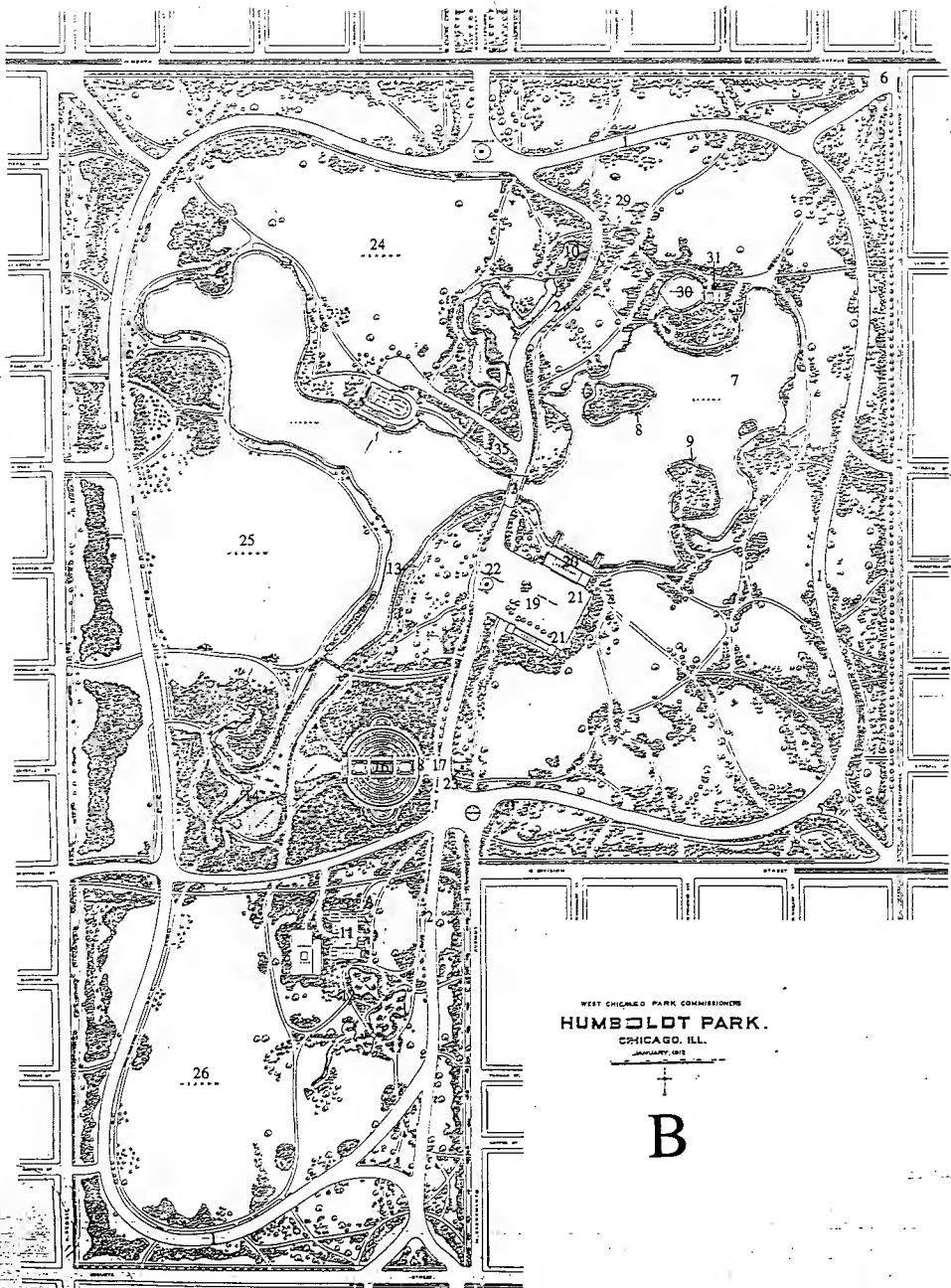
WEST CHICAGO.

1871



A

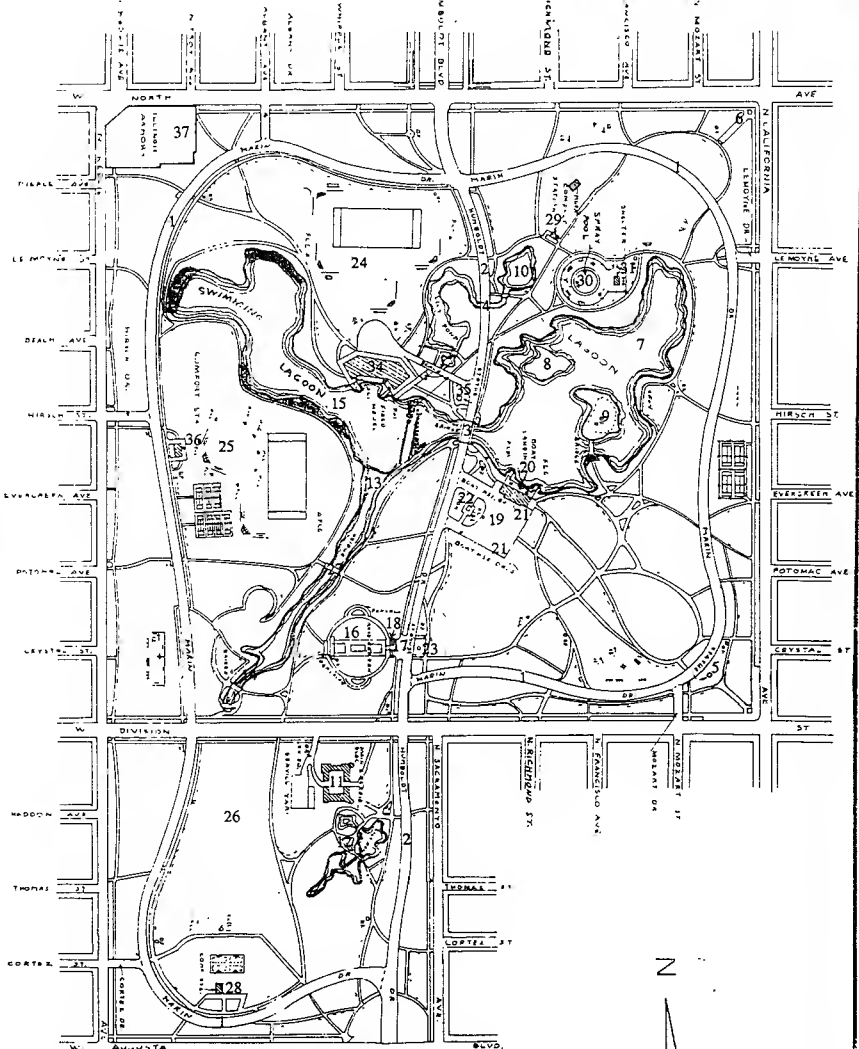
JENNEY, SCHENKELHORN & BOSART
ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS.



WEST CHICAGO PARK COMMISSIONERS
HUMBOLDT PARK.
 CHICAGO, ILL.
 JANUARY, 1918

↑
B

(INDICATES DEPENDENT RELATIONS)



PARK NO. 219
 COMM. NO. 13-14B

PLAT PLAN

HUMBOLDT PARK

SCALE: 1" = 400'

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT

REV'D R.W. GARDNER, M.C.S. 8, 1937

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Landscape Architecture
Architecture
Social History
Entertainment / Recreation

Period of Significance

1871 - 1936

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Le Baron Jenney, William
Jensen, Jens

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Humboldt Park meets with Criterion A and Criterion C for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Established in 1869, the property is significant as one of the three original west side pleasure grounds spurred by public concerns about the inadequate amount and quality of parkland in Chicago. Further significance in social history resulted from the park's ability to accommodate the changing needs and desires of subsequent generations. The park's period of significance spans from 1871, when the design was completed and initial construction began, to 1936, when the park underwent WPA improvements.

The park also has very strong significance in landscape design and architectural history. Its initial plan was conceived in 1870 by William Le Baron Jenney who was greatly inspired by the naturalistic landscape movement. Though only partially implemented, Jenney's work provided an important context for subsequent landscape designs. These included modifications between the late 1870s and early 1890s by Oscar F. Dubuis, who appears to have been concerned with the regional characteristics of the Midwestern landscape. Soon after the turn of the century, Humboldt Park projects provided Jens Jensen an opportunity critical in his process of experimentation that resulted in the Prairie style. These not only incorporated his own landscape elements but Prairie style buildings by Schmidt, Garden, and Martin and William Carlys Zimmerman. Though the park underwent other changes after Jensen left the West Park system in 1920 including the addition of locally significant Revival style buildings, Humboldt Park continues to strongly reflect its national significance as one of the key properties in which Jensen conducted his experimental projects.

As explained in section E (continuation sheets 5-6) of the Multiple Property Documentation Form, "The Historic Resources of the Chicago Park District," the original West Park System consisted of three pleasure grounds interlinked by a network of boulevards. First called North, Middle (which then became Central), and South Parks, the

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system was later renamed Humboldt, Garfield, and Douglas Parks. William Le Baron Jenney, an engineer, architect, and planner was appointed Architect and Chief Engineer and given the responsibility of designing the entire West Park system in 1870. By the following year, he had completed the plans for all three parks and boulevards.

As explained in section F III (continuation sheet 8) of the Multiple Property Documentation Form, Jenney drew inspiration from the work of Frederick Law Olmsted Sr. in America, and the French parks and boulevards developed by Adolphe Alphand and Baron Von Hausmann while Jenney was a student in Paris in the 1850s. Olmsted, who is considered the father of American landscape architecture was one of the first practitioners to adopt the naturalistic style from the English Landscape School. This tradition began in the early eighteenth century as the English became increasingly "concerned with their nation's diminishing rural hinterland" and "weary of the straight lines and strict formality that had characterized their estates and gardens" [Sniderman, 1991, p. 19]. The leading designers, including Capability Brown and Humphry Repton thus began designing landscapes that imitated "the flow, foliage, and apparent casualness of the unspoiled countryside" [Morrow, 1987, p. 215].

The use of compositional elements conveying "the beautiful" and "the picturesque" styles characteristic of the work of the English Landscape School were advocated by the American architectural critic and horticulturalist, Andrew Jackson Downing. These elements appeared in the seminal "Greensward" plan that Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux prepared for Central Park in New York. Through the use of open meadows and serpentine paths that offered broad views and vistas, Olmsted conveyed "the beautiful" style. Also known as "the graceful" these spaces evoked feelings of calmness and serenity. "To create mystery and surprise," Olmsted "used the picturesque style by including ravines and other intimate spaces with lush plantings that emphasized the play of light and shadow" [Sniderman, 1991, p. 21].

Jenney was greatly impressed by Olmsted, who was his friend and colleague. The two collaborated on the plans for Riverside, Illinois, in 1869, the year before Jenney began working for the West Park System. As explained in the Multiple Property Documentation Form section F III (continuation sheet 8), it is known that Jenney wrote to Olmsted seeking advice on the design for the West Parks. While Olmsted's letter in reply has not been found, scholars have surmised that "because of the relatively small size of the three West parks (less than 200 acres each compared to the 844 acres of New York's Central

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Park)" Olmsted likely recommended that the functions should be spatially divided, and that "the picturesque" style should be used more extensively than "the beautiful" due to lack of wide expanses for open meadows.

As explained in the Multiple Property Documentation Form, the small scale of the three West park sites made the landscapes "particularly conducive to French park designs" which tended to rely more "the picturesque" than "the beautiful" style. In addition, the Parisian parks were more architecturally composed than the work of the English landscape gardeners or Olmsted, incorporating esplanades, ellipses and circles of plantings, terraces,, and pavilions into the naturalistic landscape. As with Alphand's park system, Jenney's boulevards were more "formal and stately" than the naturalistic pleasure grounds which they linked together [Turak, 1981, p. 41].

The three pleasure grounds were designed as an ensemble. Each plan "showed common qualities, but each also established its individuality" [Turak, 1986, p. 93]. Jenney felt little inspiration from the unimproved sites. He asserted that the were "not offering a single suggestion for the design of the future park, nor possessing a single tree worthy of preservation" [West Chicago Park Commission, Third Annual Report, 1871, p. 36]. In all three parks, Jenney devoted a large amount of the total acreage of parkland to the creation of lakes and lagoons. As the sites were flat and swampy these water systems functioned as lagoons, helping to alleviate some of the drainage problems.

Jenney believed that of the three parks, the site for "Humboldt was the most favorably endowed" [Turak, 1986, p. 93]. Though its site did not pose drainage problems as severe as those of Douglas Park, Jenney's original plan for Humboldt Park included a large lake with a series of islands and peninsulas. The most prominent of these peninsulas was located on the southeast edge of the lake, on axis with the Park's entrance at the corner of N. California Avenue and W. Division Avenue. Jenney had intended the placement of a music pavilion on this terrace. His plan included a formal entrance which was linked to the terrace by a long esplanade. These elements were to be bisected by the gently curving carriage drive which encircled the entire outer perimeter of the park. This primary circulation system was also meant to have an inner drive bordering the southeastern edge of the lake with two concourses flanking the music pavilion providing public gathering spaces.

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Jenney's original plan was never fully carried out. When the park officially opened in 1877, only its eastern 80 acres had been improved. The design of this area remained generally true to Jenney's original intent, however, the esplanade, music pavilion and terrace, inner drive and concourses were not implemented. The formal entrance at the corner of N. California Avenue and W. Division, the entire outer perimeter drive, and the eastern portion of the lake with two islands were developed in accordance with the 1870s plan. The modifications to the original plan may have been undertaken by Jenney, who had remained as the Architect and Engineer until 1874, when he began receiving consulting work from the West Park Commission. It is also possible that Oscar F. Dubuis was responsible for the changes. Dubuis, who had previously worked under Jenney, was appointed as the West Park Commission Engineer in 1877.

Between 1877 and the early 1890s, Dubuis planned additional improvements, particularly for the unimplemented sections of the park. In 1885, he developed a plan which would have extended the lake by 39 acres. This project, which was considered the "new lake" modified the amount of water intended by Jenney, and narrowed the southern section into a "river bubbling out of an artesian well" [Holt, 1979, p. 182.]. Though little is known about Dubuis' work, "some of his writings indicate that he was beginning to take the natural characteristics of the midwestern landscape into consideration" [Sniderman, 1991, p. 22].

Under Dubuis' supervision, only a 4 acre portion of the "new lake" was excavated, and further improvements progressed slowly. Dubuis was terminated as the Engineer of the West Park Commission in 1893. Under his successor George W. Door, who served from 1893 to 1895, very few improvements and little regular maintenance took place. During this period, the West Park Commission was severely in debt and Humboldt Park was greatly in need of repairs maintenance.

Despite the administrative problems of the West Park Commission, and lack of improvements at this time, two pieces of sculpture were donated by community members and placed in the Park. The Fritz Reuter Monument was donated by a group of German residents of the area. Commemorating their compatriot and novelist, Reuter, the sculpture was erected "in warm admiration of the true German Peoples" [Bach and Gray, 1983, p. 319]. It was the work of Franz Engelsman, a New York artist who had studied in Germany. Similarly, the Alexander Von Humboldt Monument was commissioned by F J. Dewes, a local resident who was born in Prussia, as was Frederick Henrick Alexander Von Humboldt. Though the monument was placed in the Park in 1893, interest in commemorating the Scandinavian naturalist, scientist and explorer began in 1869, when

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a large group of residents of the surrounding area petitioned the Commissioners to name Humboldt Park in his honor. Another prominent figure in Scandinavian history, Leif Erickson, was commemorated with a statue dedicated in 1901. Donated by a group of neighborhood residents of Norwegian descent, the sculpture was created by Sigvald Asbjornsen.

In 1895, due to the budgetary problems and poor condition of the West Park system, the Board was granted permission to issue bonds for a major improvement program. Several Humboldt Park projects resulted from this program. Though they were conducted under the supervision of a new Engineer, Alfred C. Schrader, it seems unlikely that he was responsible for any of the design work. In fact, in the late 1890s, when the next addition to the "new lake" took place, extending the northwestern portion of the waterway, its design appears to have been based on Dubuis' earlier plans.

The major Humboldt Park improvement that was funded by the 1895 bond was the construction of a receptory building. This Queen Anne style structure, the receiving place for the Park, included stables, offices, workshops and storage areas. It was designed by the firm of Frommann and Jepsen in 1895. The building was constructed in the southwestern section of the park, an area that previously had no implemented improvements, other than its use as a temporary nursery. The building was completed by 1896, and the following year its surrounding landscape was implemented. The designer of the receptory landscape, which had a small lily pool with a footbridge, is not known. There is a strong possibility, however, that this was among Jens Jensen's earliest projects in Humboldt Park.

As explained in section FIII (continuation sheets 8 and 9) of the Multiple Property Documentation Form, Jensen was a Danish immigrant (1860-1951) who began working for the West Park Commission as a laborer in 1886. Enchanted by the native Illinois landscape, he took frequent weekend trips with his family to study plants in their natural environments. As a foreman in Union Park, (a small park in which the administrative headquarters of the West Park Commission were located,) Jensen began transplanting wildflowers from the countryside in 1888 and created what became known as the "American Garden." This unusual though popular amenity remained in the park until at least the late 1890s. In 1894, Jensen was appointed as the Superintendent of Union Park. As there had previously been no superintendent for this park, which was substantially smaller than the three pleasure grounds, it can be surmised that Jensen's efforts were recognized by the Board and the position was created for him. By the end of the following year, he was

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elected as the Superintendent of Humboldt Park, a position he held until his firing for political reasons in 1900.

Despite the popularity of the "American Garden," the development of Jensen's Prairie landscape style required many years of design experimentation. Thus, Jensen's early park work included persistent attempts to introduce non-native plants that did not thrive easily in Chicago's climate. He suggested that exotics such as azaleas were "most certainly a grand acquisition in the garden" [Jensen, 1902, p. 384]. Jensen published articles about some of these horticultural efforts in Humboldt Park. In one article, he advocated the use of the Russian olive tree, predicting its "great future on our woodless plains" [Jensen, 1901b, p. 66]. Another suggested the use of a Japanese plant, *Polygonum Cuspidatum* of the Buckwheat family. This article mentioned that while the shrub had taken successfully in Humboldt Park, it was not "over-hardy, as it froze out entirely in the cold winter of 1898-99" [Jensen, 1901a, p. 27]. An accompanying photograph depicts the placement of this plant directly next to the receptory building. Not only does this illuminate the process which Jensen went through as he slowly and steadily became confirmed in the use of native plants, but it provides additional evidence indicating that Jensen may have had the opportunity to design the receptory landscape when it was first created in 1897.

Upon his firing by the West Park System in 1900, Jensen turned to private practice among Chicago's elite. Though it was a period of financial struggle, the few estate commissions that he secured allowed him some experimentation with formal and informal forms, and native and exotic plants. When he returned to the West Park Commission as General Superintendent and Chief Landscape Architect in 1905, Jensen's first major effort was to remedy the deplorable condition of the system's three large parks. In addition to the dilapidated conditions in Humboldt, Douglas, and Garfield Parks, large unimproved sections of all three pleasure grounds allowed him a full opportunity to continue this process of design exploration. Many of the elements and techniques Jensen used drew from the naturalistic tradition that preceded his work. For instance, he used winding paths, changing views in the landscape, the play of light and shadow, and carved out spaces of vegetation. He revised, however, many of the originally planned elements with features that emulated the native landscape.

Some of the most significant of these efforts occurred in Humboldt Park. Jensen completed the park's lagoon, making the waterway even narrower than Dubuis had intended so that it would emulate a prairie river. To recreate the appearance of the natural rivers he saw

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on his trips to the countryside, Jensen designed hidden water sources that supplied two rocky brooks that fed the narrow river and the adjoining existing lagoon. Reeds and other marsh plants were placed at the edges, and the prairie river was surrounded by a perennial garden composed of masses of wildflowers and other native plants. As Jensen was still including exotic plants and formal forms in his process of experimentation, next to the prairie river he placed a formal rose garden.

In 1908 the Humboldt Park rose garden was opened to the public. Seven years later, its design was discussed in a circular published to promote the use of the Prairie landscape style. Its author, Wilhelm Miller, a professor of landscape architecture at the University of Illinois referred to the rose garden as an example of how the "Prairie Style can be Executed in the Formal Manner" [Miller, 1915, p. 4]. Asserting that the garden was "so conventionalized" that it contained "no prairie flowers," Miller quoted Jensen's comments about the site which illuminate his experimental efforts at that time:

"But," says the designer, "I put hawthorns at the entrance to suggest the meeting of the woods and the prairie. Also I lowered the garden two feet in order to get the flowers well below the level of the eye as they are on the prairie in the spring. I gave the people the obvious beauty of the roses and I hope a subtle charm also" [Ibid].

Though years later Jensen referred to formal gardens as the "folly of my youth," the use of the formal rose garden juxtaposed to the naturalistic landscape with its native perennial garden was clearly an important part of the process of design evolution.

The dichotomy between the formal and informal elements of the landscape were further investigated by Jensen in an outdoor sculpture exhibition held in Humboldt Park in 1908. Replica castings of important artworks were carefully placed to determine appropriate settings. Thus, humanistic works such as Lorado Taft's "Pastoral" and "Idyll" were placed in the perennial garden near the rocky brooks, and heroic pieces such as Daniel Chester French's "Bulls," (originally cast for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition,) were symmetrically positioned flanking the rose garden's entrance stairs. The following year a similar exhibition was mounted in Garfield Park, and the themes that were established in the Humboldt Park sculpture show were explored in even greater depth. In that exhibition, a monumental pair of buffalo sculptures by Edward Kemeys was placed as French's "Bulls" had

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been displayed in Humboldt Park, flanking the entry of a formal garden. After the Garfield Park exhibition was closed, Kemeys' "Buffalo" were recast in bronze and later moved to entrance of the Humboldt Park rose garden.

The permanent installation of Charles J. Mulligan's "Miner and His Child", also known as "The Miner's Homecoming," also resulted from the inclusion of a temporary version in the Humboldt Park sculpture exhibition of 1908 [Park and Cemetery, 1913, p. 290]. Originally exhibited at the Pan American Exposition in 1901, the piece was created as a tribute to the American worker [Bach and Gray, 1983, p. 317]. The permanent piece was executed in Georgian Marble and placed at eastern entrance to the Park at W. Division Street.

Much of the new work in Humboldt Park during this critical period in the evolution of Jensen's style reflected his strong interest in the decorative arts and architecture of the Prairie School. As site furnishings in the rose garden, he included large green teco ware vases, shallow concrete urns on pedestals, and low concrete benches [Architectural Record, 1908, pp. 19-30]. Two massive Prairie style lanterns, designed by the Prairie School firm of Schmidt, Garden, and Martin, were placed at the entrance to the rose garden, along Humboldt Drive.

A similar vocabulary was used in the elements of the music court, located on the east side of Humboldt Drive slightly north of the rose garden. As with the garden, this was a formal setting juxtaposed to the naturalistic landscape. The rectangular space was defined by two Prairie style buildings designed by Schmidt, Garden and Martin, a refectory/boathouse, and a music shelter. Inside of the court area, each building was flanked by a pair of the massive lanterns identical to those at the rose garden entry. Also similar to the formal rose garden elements were shallow urns on pedestals which defined the edge of the music court area, and were placed at intervals on the boathouse/refectory's low decorative wall. Both of the buildings provided a sense of openness that interplayed with the landscape. The boathouse/refectory mediated between the formal music court setting at the south, and the informal lagoon setting on its north side. "On the other side of the large, rectangular, paved music court," the music shelter which was "both a pergola and bandstand defined the southern boundary of this formal intervention in the predominantly naturalistic landscape" [De Wit and Tippens, 1991, p. 40].

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Two structures constructed in the north part of the park in 1906 also reflect Jensen's preference for the Prairie style, as well as new trends in programming during the period. One structure was a comfort station, providing the convenience of toilet facilities in the Park. Though the architect of this structure is unknown, it is possible that it was designed by Schmidt, Garden and Martin. Unlike the firm's other Humboldt Park buildings, it was constructed in brick, however, the structure's red tile hipped roof and detailing under the eaves soffit are reminiscent of Schmidt, Garden and Martin's work. Also constructed in 1906 was a new children's playground and wading pool. A shelter structure near the wading pool was also constructed of brick with an overhanging hipped roof.

The Park's other Prairie style structure also reflects Jensen's interest in the Prairie style and the changing patterns in recreation which were shaping the development of the pleasure grounds as well as the new neighborhood parks. This was the natatorium which was designed by William Carby's Zimmerman in 1913. As explained in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (Section FIII, continuation page 14), it can be surmised that Jensen influenced the park work of Zimmerman, who was not thought of as a Prairie School architect. Before Zimmerman began the West Park design commission which he received as the State Architect, he had specialized in residential work in the revival and eclectic styles of popular taste.

Zimmerman and Jensen had collaborated on the plans for the West Park Commission's first three new neighborhood parks between 1907 and 1909. As explained in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (Section FIII, continuation sheet 13), these parks were "meant to provide a healthy and controlled environment in the overcrowded neighborhoods of the period." They were specifically created to offer an array of services to their surrounding communities including: health care and hygiene; meals sold at cost; education and vocational training; organized play and sports; and social and cultural activities for both children and adults. While particularly targeted for the inner city areas that were not served by the pleasure grounds, many of the new programs were first tested in the existing large parks. Thus, the success of such initiatives not only affected the agenda of the new parks, but also the subsequent development of the pleasure grounds.

Swimming was one of the most important of the new programs, as it not only provided water recreation but public bathing. The first natatorium and swimming pool complex was constructed in 1895 in Douglas Park, well before the creation of the neighborhood park system was

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underway. It included separate men and women's showers, lockers, changing booths, and bathing suits, soap and clean towels were provided to visitors at no cost. The facility met with immediate success, and created a new expectation. The West Park Commission soon began receiving petitions from community members requesting that swimming pool facilities be constructed in Humboldt and Garfield Parks.

In 1911, after the first three neighborhood parks had successfully been opened, the West Park Commission began pursuing the development of swimming facilities in Humboldt and Garfield Parks. The following year, a piece of land adjacent to Humboldt Park was acquired for the natatorium. The initial proposal included only the swimming pool facilities, but as there were many additional requests for a playground in the park, a second proposal was developed incorporating the two programs. By 1913, Zimmerman began designing the natatorium which included a playground, and the following year it was officially opened to the public. A wall between the swimming pool and playground protected both the patrons of the pool and the children. A trained woman kindergarten and recreation instructor was assigned to the area to watch the children; tell stories; play games; and teach them about the park equipment. [West Chicago Park Commission, Recreation Centres, Playgrounds, and Swimming Pools of the West Chicago Park Commission, 1919].

As explained in the Multiple Property Documentation Form (Section FIII, continuation sheet 15), by 1917, the West Park Board of Commissioners were making design decisions which conflicted with Jensen's wishes. This loss of political support, along with the Commission's failure to continue pursuing Jensen's plan for a "Greater West Park System" led to the termination of his position in 1920.

Between Jensen's departure and the present time a few other buildings were constructed in Humboldt Park. These were locally significant structures which, in most cases, allowed the park to accommodate historic recreational and social needs without detracting from the earlier design significance of the park. For instance, in 1928, a major improvement project allowed for the construction of a new fieldhouse built at the edge of the lagoon. Designed by the firm Michaelson and Rognstad, the eclectic Revival style building included boaters' and skaters' facilities, rooms for clubs and social activities, and a gymnasium. While it was quite unlike the architecture introduced during Jensen's tenure, the large building was well sited, and constructed without detracting from the integrity of the landscape. In fact, when a portion of the lagoon was converted into a swimming lake in more recent years, it was also done without

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undermining the lagoon setting. A second locally significant structure which was added after the consolidation of the West Park Commission into the Chicago Park District was an additional comfort station. Funded by the WPA program which emphasized modernization and convenience, the Colonial Revival style building was designed by E.V. Buchsbaum of the Chicago Park District staff. This building was also added without compromising the integrity of the landscape.

Another building that was added since the consolidation of the Chicago Park District was the Northwest Armory of the Illinois National Guard. Though this is a well-designed Art Deco building that was constructed in 1940, it has been deemed as a non-contributing property in this nomination. The State-owned facility has never contributed to recreational and cultural needs of the community. Not only is its function incompatible with the park, but it was constructed without sensitivity to the historic landscape. While the building does not relate to the historic context dealt with in this nomination, however, it may be significant to other thematic nominations in Illinois.

In spite of this intervention, problems with vandalism, and a low level of maintenance which the Chicago Park District is actively working to raise, Humboldt Park remains as an extremely important historic resource. The landscape provides a rich understanding of a continuum of both social and design significance that illustrates a critical chapter in the history of American landscape architecture. Not only is the park a relic of the inception of the West Park Commission, but it also highlights the venerable tradition of naturalistic landscape design that emerged in this country in the late nineteenth century. In addition to the groundwork laid by William Le Baron Jenney and O.F. Dubuis, the existing landscape reveals Jens Jensen's process of design exploration that resulted in the Prairie style. The importance of this work was even realized at that time, prior to the fruition of Jensen's ideas with the creation of Columbus Park. In 1910 Frank Waugh, a professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Massachusetts and author of The Landscape Beautiful cited Jensen's work in the West Parks as some of the most vital and exciting that he had ever seen [Waugh, 1910]. As Jensen's contribution can be better understood today, Humboldt Park can be even more fully appreciated as one of the most influential projects of this master landscape designer.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Architectural and Landscape Plans and Drawings:

- West Park Commissioners, William Le Baron Jenney- Plan for Humboldt Park, 1871.
- West Park Commissioners, O.F.Dubuis- Plan for Humboldt Park, 1885.
- West Park Commissioners, O.F.Dubuis- Proposed outlines of lake and drives in the west half of the Park, 1889.
- West Park Commissioners- Plans of a stone and concrete arch for Humboldt Park, October, 1906.

See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark Boathouse
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 206.92 acres

UTM References

A

16	441370	4639820
Zone	Easting	Northing

C

16	442210	4639020
Zone	Easting	Northing

B

16	442200	4639820
Zone	Easting	Northing

D

16	441800	4639010
Zone	Easting	Northing

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Verbal Boundary Description

The property is bounded on the north by the south curb line of W. North Avenue; on the south by the north curb line of W. Augusta Boulevard from the east curb line of N. Kedzie Avenue to the west curb line of N. Sacramento Boulevard, and the north curb line of

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Boundary Justification

This is the plot of land historically associated with the park during its period of significance.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

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- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Planting plan for Rose Garden, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Garden lamp, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Wood flower box for Entrance to Rose Garden, Humboldt Park, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Electric lamp post for Humboldt Park Rose Garden, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Reinforced concrete Park bench, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Bridge in Humboldt Park, west of Rose Garden, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Tea House for Humboldt Park Water Garden, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Garden seat for Humboldt Park Water Garden, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Concrete water basin for Humboldt Park Rose Garden, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Foot Bridge for Perennial Garden, Humboldt Park, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Planting Plan for portion of Humboldt Park, [1907].
- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Proposed Rockery Display into the Lagoon in the Western Part of Humboldt Park, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Entrance of Sacramento and Division St., [1907].
- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Planting plan for Entrance of Humboldt Park, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Planting plan for portion of Humboldt Park, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Plan for Southern portion of Humboldt Park, 1907.
- West Park Commissioners- Plan showing changes in drive, North Part of Humboldt Park, 1907.

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- West Park Commissioners- Picnic Island Bridge, March, 1909.
- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Railings and Gateways for the corner of Division St. and California Avenue, February, 1911.
- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Plan of Humboldt Park, January, 1912.
- West Park Commissioners- Humboldt Park Natatorium, February, 1913, 9 sheets.
- West Park Commissioners- Humboldt Park Natatorium, 1914.
- West Park Commissioners, Jens Jensen- Rose Garden in Humboldt Park, December, 1917.
- West Park Commissioners- Humboldt Park, February, 1931.
- Chicago Park District- Location for Standard Brick Colonial Comfort Station, December 19, 1935.
- Chicago Park District- Humboldt Park Roadway Changes, Humboldt Boulevard and North Avenue March 24, 1936.
- Chicago Park District- Humboldt Park Filtration Plant Building, December 24, 1936.
- Chicago Park District- Lights to Swimming Pool, February 19, 1937.
- Chicago Park District- Alteration to Swimming Pool, February 19, 1937.
- Chicago Park District- Fieldhouse Plans and Elevations, April 16, 1937.
- Chicago Park District- Stables Building Plans and Elevations (Shops and Storage Building), April 19, 1937.
- Chicago Park District- Rose Garden Plot Plan and Lighting System, June 2, 1937.
- Chicago Park District- Heating Survey, June 28, 1937.
- Chicago Park District- Wall Removal, June 25, 1938.
- Chicago Park District- Humboldt Park, Topographical Survey and General Plan, August 14, 1939.

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- Chicago Park District- Tennis Courts November 29, 1939.
- Chicago Park District- Fieldhouse, Repairs to Terraces,
May 12, 1947.
- Chicago Park District- Fieldhouse, New Door Opening to Dressing Room
in Basement, December 1, 1949.
- Chicago Park District- Repairs to Fieldhouse Verandas and Railings,
no date.
- Chicago Park District- Proposed Children's Playground February 1951.
- Chicago Park District- Humboldt Drive Improvements, July 1, 1952.
- Chicago Park District- Children's Playground Humboldt Park, 1952.
- Chicago Park District- Children's Playground March 7, 1953.
- Chicago Park District- Rehabilitation of Rose Garden Walks,
January, 1961.
- Chicago Park District- New Filtration System, June 8, 1962.
- Chicago Park District- Humboldt Park Lagoon Fill Plans,
August 28, 1962.
- Chicago Park District- Walk at Lily Pond, August 31, 1962.
- Chicago Park District- Demolition Plan, August 31, 1965.
- Chicago Park District- Rebuilding Swimming Pool, August 31, 1965.
- Chicago Park District- Walk Rehabilitation Plan, August 4, 1966.
- Chicago Park District- Tree Planting 1967.
- Chicago Park District- Replacement of Walls and Floors at Boat Room,
June 5, 1968.
- Chicago Park District- New Gasoline Pumphouse, April 20, 1971.
- Chicago Park District- New Roof for Stables Building,
October 20, 1971.
- Chicago Park District- Removal of 18 (Tennis) Courts, Plans and
Sections, September 26, 1972.

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UTM References

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Humboldt Park

W. Division Street from the west curb line of N. Sacramento Boulevard to the west curb line of N. California Avenue; on the east by the west curb line of N. California Avenue from the south curb line of W. North Avenue to the north curb line of W. Division Street, and the west curb line of N. Sacramento Boulevard from the north curb line of W. Division Street to the north curb line of W. Augusta Boulevard; and on the west by the east curb line of N. Kedzie Avenue from North Avenue to Augusta Boulevard. An extension of the property is bounded on the north by the south curb line of W. Augusta Boulevard; on the south by the north curb line of W. Walton Street; on the east by the west curb line of N. Whipple Street; and on the west by the east edge of the first alley west of N. Whipple Street.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

P.O. BOX 37127

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127



IN REPLY REFER TO

The Director of the National Park Service is pleased to inform you that the following properties have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. For further information call 202/343-9542.

FEB 28 1992

WEEKLY LIST OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON PROPERTIES: 2/17/92 THROUGH 2/21/92

KEY: State, County, Property Name, Address/Boundary, City, Vicinity, Reference Number-NHL Status, Action, Date, Multiple Name

ALABAMA, ELMORE COUNTY, East Melumpka Commercial Historic District, Roughly, Company St. from Spring St. to E. Bridge St. and E. Bridge and Commerce Sts. from main to Hill Sts., Melumpka, 92D00035, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, Fern Avenue School, 1314 Fern Ave., Torrance, 92D00067, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

COLORADO, GRAND COUNTY, Timber Creek Road Camp Storage Building, Timber Creek Rd., Estes Park vicinity, 87D01135, REMOVAL, 2/11/92 (Rocky Mountain National Park MRA)

FLORIDA, MONROE COUNTY, AFRICAN QUEEN, 9970 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo, 91001771, NOMINATION, 2/16/92

ILLINOIS, COOK COUNTY, Humboldt Park, Roughly bounded by N. Sacramento and Augusta Blvds., and N. Kedzie, North and N. California Aves. and W. Division St., Chicago, 92D00074, NOMINATION, 2/20/92 (Chicago Park District WPS)

ILLINOIS, TAZEWELL COUNTY, Farm Creek Section, S side of Farm Cr., East Peoria vicinity, 91002039, NOMINATION, 2/06/92

INDIANA, CLAY COUNTY, Coal Company Store, S. Harmony Rd., Harmony, 86D01131, REMOVAL, 2/07/92

KENTUCKY, PULASKI COUNTY, Parker House, 206 N. Vine St., Somersel, 64D01970, ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION, 2/20/92 (Pulaski County MRA)

MARYLAND, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, Douglass Summer House, 2200 Wayman Ave., Highland Beach, 92D00069, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

MARYLAND, CHARLES COUNTY, Acquinsicke, Billingsley Rd. w of jct. with MD 226, Pomfret vicinity, 92D00070, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

NEW JERSEY, MERCER COUNTY, Herring, Donald Grant Estate, 52, 72 and 75 Arretton Rd., Princeton Township, Rocky Hill vicinity, 91001927, NOMINATION, 1/17/92

NEW YORK, MONROE COUNTY, Baptist Temple Building, 14 Franklin St., Rochester, 85003630, ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION, 2/20/92 (Inner Loop MRA)

NEW YORK, WYOMING COUNTY, Gates, Seth W. House, 15 Perry Ave., Warsaw, 92D00031, NOMINATION, 2/21/92

OKLAHOMA, OKLAHOMA COUNTY, Cover Cemetery, Cover Rd. between Douglas and Post Rds., Edmond, 91001695, NOMINATION, 12/27/91

OREGON, DESCHUTES COUNTY, Slover, B. A. and Ruth House, 1 NW Rocklyn Rd., Bend, 92D00061, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

OREGON, JACKSON COUNTY, Pedigriff, S. and Sarah J. House, 407 Scenic Ave., Ashland, 92D00063, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

OREGON, JACKSON COUNTY, Pell, Emil and Alice Applegate House, 52 Granite St., Ashland, 92D00062, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

VIRGINIA, HIGHLAND COUNTY, Citax Rural Historic District, jct. of VA 644 and VA 643 and surrounding valley area, Citax, 92D00052, NOMINATION, 2/20/92

WISCONSIN, BROWN COUNTY, Lawton, C. A. Company, 233 N. Broadway De Pree, 91001985, NOMINATION, 1/30/92

WISCONSIN, WAUKESHA COUNTY, First Congregational Church, 100 E. Broadway Waukesha, 91001991, NOMINATION, 1/30/92

WISCONSIN, WOOD COUNTY, Wahle-Laird House, 206 S. Cherry Ave., Marshfield, 91001986, NOMINATION, 1/30/92